Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple, Alappuzha, Kerala

Ref: Google Gemini

The Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swamy Temple is one of Kerala's most ancient and prominent shrines dedicated to Lord Murugan. Known as **Dakshina Palani** (the Southern Palani), it is celebrated for its spiritual power and distinctive architectural grandeur.

1. Location, Address, and Contact

- **Address:** Danapady Road, Haripad, Alappuzha District, Kerala - 690514.
- **Phone:** +91 479 2410690
- **Email:** admin@haripadsubrahmanyaswamytemple.com
- **Timings:** Generally 4:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 4:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

2. How to Get There

- **By Train:** Haripad Railway Station is about 1.2 km from the temple.
- **By Road:** Haripad is situated on National Highway 66 (NH 66) between Alappuzha and Kollam. The Haripad bus station is roughly 1 km away.
- **By Air:** The nearest airport is Trivandrum International Airport, approximately 115 km away, followed by Cochin International Airport at about 125 km.

3. Greatness and Spiritual Significance

The temple is unique because the presiding deity is believed to embody the presence of the Trimurti: **Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva**. It is the largest Subrahmanya temple in Kerala and features the longest golden flag post (*Dhwajastambha*) in the state.

4. Legends and History

According to legend, the idol was originally used by **Lord Parasurama** for worship and was later submerged in the Kayamkulam Lake (Govindamuttom Backwaters). Centuries later, all the local landlords simultaneously had a vision in their dreams regarding the location of the idol. It was recovered from the lake and brought ashore at Nelpurakadavu, an event still commemorated today. The temple itself is believed to be over 3,500 years old.

5. Architecture and Deities

- **Architecture:** Built in the classic Kerala style, it features a circular sanctum (*Vatta Sreekovil*) and a grand *Koothambalam* (temple theater).

- **Main Deity:** Lord Subrahmanya in a rare four-armed form, standing approximately eight feet tall. He holds a *Vel* (spear) and *Vajrayudha* (thunderbolt), with one hand in a blessing gesture and the other resting on his thigh.
- **Sub-deities:** Shrines for Lord Ganesha, Dakshinamurthy, Lord Vishnu, Thiruvambadi Sree Krishna, Hanuman, Nagaraja (Serpent God), and Shasta (Ayyappa) are located within the complex.

6. Rituals, Poojas, and Festivals

- **Daily Rituals:** The temple follows strict Vedic rituals. Major offerings include *Abhishekams*, *Archana*, and *Udayasthamana Pooja*.
- **Festivals:** * **Chithira Utsavam:** The most important annual festival (April/May).
    - **Thaipooyam:** Celebrated with *Kavadiaatam* and grand processions.
    - **Payippad Boat Race:** Conducted in remembrance of the idol's retrieval.
    - **Skanda Shashti:** Observed with great devotion.

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- **Charges:** Pooja rates are subject to periodic revision by the Devaswom Board. Common offerings like *Archana* or *Neyyvilakku* are generally modest (₹10–₹100), while elaborate *Sevas* can range from ₹500 to several thousand rupees. It is recommended to contact the temple office directly for the latest rate card.

7. Facilities and Accommodation

- **For Devotees:** The temple provides facilities for *Annadanam* (sacred meals) and has a large pond (*Perumkulam*) for ritual bathing.
- **Accommodation:** While the temple may have basic pilgrim rest houses, most visitors stay in nearby private hotels.
- **Donations:** Contributions are managed by the Travancore Devaswom Board. Bank account details for online transfers are typically available at the temple administrative office or on their official website.

8. Nearby Attractions and Temples

- **Mannarasala Sree Nagaraja Temple:** A world-renowned serpent worship center (approx. 3 km away).
- **Ambalapuzha Sree Krishna Temple:** Famous for its *Palpayasam* (approx. 20 km away).
- **Krishnapuram Palace:** A historic palace and museum in Kayamkulam (approx. 15 km away).
- **Alappuzha Backwaters:** Famous for houseboat cruises.

9. Nearby Budget Hotels

- **Glancys Guest House:** Located near the railway station.
- **Saugandhika Residency:** Moderate pricing with modern amenities.
- **Minerva Suites:** Comfortable budget-friendly rooms near the town center.

- **MCM Resort:** Offers dormitory and budget room options.

More info:

The Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swamy Temple is steeped in deep-rooted traditions and unique architectural features. Below is more detailed information regarding its heritage, rituals, and guidance for your visit.

1. Detailed Legends and History

- **The Divine Recovery:** Legend says the 8-foot idol was once worshipped by **Sage Parasurama**. It was later submerged in the Kayamkulam Lake. Local landlords simultaneously dreamt of the idol's location. While recovering it, they paused for 30 minutes at a spot belonging to a Christian family (the Tharakans); a small shrine called **Ara Nazhika Ambalam** exists there today to commemorate this rest.
- **The Consecrator:** It is believed that **Lord Vishnu** himself appeared in the form of a Brahmin to perform the consecration (*Pratishtha*). This divine association led to the town being called *Harigeethapuram* (the song of Hari/Vishnu), which eventually became Haripad.
- **The Fire of 1096:** In the Malayalam year 1096 (1921 CE), a massive fire destroyed much of the structure. However, the sacred **Golden Flag Mast** and the **Koothambalam** were miraculously spared. The temple was subsequently rebuilt by King Sree Chithira Thirunal Rama Varma.

2. Architecture

- **The Vatta Sreekovil (Circular Sanctum):** The main shrine is a rare circular structure, characteristic of ancient Kerala temple design. This shape is believed to focus the spiritual energy of the deity.
- **Koothambalam (Temple Theater):** This is one of the finest examples of traditional wooden architecture. It is decorated with intricate carvings depicting scenes from the Ramayana and Mahabharata.
- **Golden Flag Mast:** The temple boasts the **longest golden flag post** in Kerala, a major landmark visible from a distance.
- **Four Gopurams:** The massive compound is entered through four grand gateways (Gopurams) on each cardinal direction.

3. Daily Rituals and Special Poojas

- **Daily Schedule:**
    - **Nirmalya Darshanam:** 4:00 AM (Viewing the deity as decorated the previous night).
    - **Usha Pooja:** Early morning ritual.
    - **Ucha Pooja:** Noon ritual before the temple closes at 12:00 PM.
    - **Deeparadhana:** 6:30 PM (Evening lamp ritual).
    - **Athazha Pooja:** 8:00 PM (Night ritual before closing).

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- **Charges (Approximate):**
    - **Archana:** ₹15 – ₹50 (Simple chanting of names).
    - **Ney-payasam (Ghee Porridge):** ₹60 – ₹150.
    - **Udayasthamana Pooja:** A grand all-day pooja; this is highly sought after and requires booking months or years in advance. Costs can exceed ₹25,000.
    - **Kavadi Offering:** During festivals, varying costs based on the type of Kavadi.
    - *Note: For the most current "Pooja Nirakku" (Rate Chart), it is best to visit the Devaswom Office located inside the temple compound.*

4. Famous Festivals

- **Chithira Utsavam:** The most important 10-day festival in April/May. The highlights include the **Peacock Throne procession** and the final *Arattu* (holy bath).
- **Thaipooyam:** Usually in January/February. This is the most vibrant day, featuring hundreds of devotees performing **Kavadiyattom** (a ritual dance with decorated arches) to the beat of traditional drums.
- **Three Flag-Hoisting Festivals:** Uniquely, this temple celebrates three major festivals a year where the flag is hoisted (*Kodiyettu*): Avani (Aug/Sept), Markazhi (Dec/Jan), and Chithira (April/May).

5. Guidance for Devotees

- **Dress Code:**
    - **Men:** Must wear a **Mundu** (dhoti). Shirts and vests must be removed before entering the inner sanctum.
    - **Women:** Saree or Set-Mundu is preferred. Long skirts or Salwar Kameez are generally accepted, but avoid modern western wear like jeans or leggings.
- **Do’s and Don'ts:**
    - **Do:** Walk clockwise (*Pradakshinam*) around the shrines.
    - **Don't:** Photography is strictly prohibited inside the inner temple walls.
    - **Don't:** Do not carry leather items (bags/belts) or umbrellas inside the inner sanctum.
    - **Don't:** Smoking or non-vegetarian food consumption is strictly forbidden in the vicinity.

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- **Accommodation:**
    - **Budget:** *Glancys Guest House* and *Minerva Suites* (Near the Railway Station).
    - **Comfort:** *Saugandhika Residency* (Approx. 2.7 km away).
    - **Pilgrim Shelters:** Basic rooms are managed by the Devaswom Board; check availability at the counter near the Eastern Gopuram.

6. Donations and Bank Info

Donations are handled by the **Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB)**.

- Official receipts are issued for all contributions.
- For bank transfers, look for the official TDB account details displayed near the "Vazhipadu" (Offerings) counter or the Administrative Office. Be cautious of unofficial links or private bank accounts.

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The **Koothambalam** (temple theater) at the Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swamy Temple is not only a site of worship but a masterpiece of traditional Kerala carpentry and acoustics. As the third largest of its kind in Kerala, it serves as a vital repository of cultural heritage.

Key Architectural & Decorative Details

- **Acoustic Engineering:** The structure is built almost entirely of wood above the stone plinth. Instead of solid walls, it uses a slanted trellis-work (cross-members known as *ottankoti kazhukol*). This design allows for natural ventilation and creates perfect resonance for the unamplified voices of *Chakyar Koothu* performers.
- **The Rangamandapam (Stage):** The central stage is a sacred space, often considered as holy as the sanctum sanctorum. It is supported by massive pillars, often made of black granite or teak.
- **Wooden Carvings:** The ceiling and pillars are adorned with intricate relief carvings. You will find detailed depictions of:
    - **The 108 Karanas:** Classic dance poses from the *Natyasastra*.
    - **Puranic Scenes:** Vivid portrayals of the *Ramayana*, the battles of Lord Murugan, and scenes from the *Mahabharata*.
    - **Navagrahas:** The nine planetary deities are often carved into the central ceiling panels (*Vithanams*).

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Ref: ClaudeAI

HARIPAD SREE SUBRAHMANYA SWAMI TEMPLE

(Perumthrikkovil — Dakshina Palani / Kerala Palani)

1. **LOCATION & ADDRESS**

Address: Danappady, Haripad, Alappuzha District, Kerala – 690 514
Phone: 0479-2410690 (Divinetraveller)
The temple is approximately 14–15 km from Alappuzha (Alleppey) town, situated between Alappuzha and Kollam on National Highway 66. (Divinetraveller)

🚌 2. **HOW TO GET THERE**

The temple is about 1 km from Haripad Railway Station and 2 km from the Haripad KSRTC Bus Station, making it easily accessible by road. The nearest airport is Cochin International Airport, located approximately 115 km away. (Tripinic)

Plenty of state-run buses, taxis, and cabs are available from Alappuzha. The nearest private bus stand is on Danapadi road, Haripad. (Divinetraveller)

🌟 3. **GREATNESS OF THIS TEMPLE**

This temple holds the distinction of being the largest Subrahmanya Swami Temple in Kerala, and features the longest golden flagpost (dhwajastambha / kodimaram) in Kerala. The temple's main deity is believed to embody not only Subrahmanya Swamy but also Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu, making it a highly revered and powerful place of worship. (Wikipedia)

Popularly known as South Palani or Dakshina Palani, it is one of the oldest shrines in Kerala, believed to have been consecrated by Sage Parasurama. (Kerala Tourism)
Lord Subrahmanya is said to be the lord of eighteen zones (Karas). Devotees believe that the Subrahmanya idol has the combined presence of Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma. (Sacred Yatra)

Entry to the temple is free. (TripHobo)

📜 4. **LEGENDS AND HISTORY**

According to legend, the idol of the temple was previously used by Parasurama for pooja and was later discovered in the Govindamuttom backwaters of Kandanalloor. It is said that all the landlords of Eakachakra (then Haripad) simultaneously had visions of the idol, leading them to find it in Kayamkulam Lake. The idol was brought ashore at Nelpurakadavu. To

commemorate its retrieval, the Vigraha Labdhi Jalolsavam festival is conducted in the Payippad River for three days after Thiruvonam. (Wikipedia)

It is believed that Lord Vishnu appeared as a saint to consecrate the temple, which led to the name "Harigeethapuram" for the present-day Haripad. In the Malayalam year 1096, the temple suffered a fire, but the golden flag mast and the Koothambalam were fortunately saved. During the reign of King Sree Chithira Thirunal Rama Varma, the temple was rebuilt, and the golden flag mast was reinstalled. (Wikipedia)

According to legend, the idol was kept for public viewing for Ara Nazhika (half an hour) under a banyan tree that belonged to a Christian family, the Tharakanmar — a touching symbol of Kerala's inter-religious harmony. (RVA Temples)

🏛️ 5. **ARCHITECTURE OF THE TEMPLE**

The temple features four gopurams (ornate entrance towers). A golden dhwajastambha (flag mast) adorns the eastern side of the temple. The sanctum sanctorum is round in shape and thatched with copper plates.

The temple compound houses a Koothambalam, which is the third largest of its kind among Kerala temples.

The temple pond, known as "Perumkulam", is one of the largest temple ponds in Kerala, covering approximately five acres. (Wikipedia)

The Subrahmanya idol with four arms is the biggest of its kind, designed after the sculptural pattern of the Buddhist era. (Pilgrimaide)

The temple is known for its iconic peacock sculptures and the sacred pond, adding to its traditional charm. (Wheree)

🙏 6. **MAIN DEITY**

The presiding deity is Karthikeya (Murugan / Lord Subrahmanya) in his four-armed form. The idol holds the divine spear Vel in one hand and a Vajrayudha (thunderbolt) in another, with one hand bestowing blessings and the other touching its thighs. The idol stands approximately six feet in height and faces East. (Wikipedia)

🔱 7. **SUB-DEITIES**

Alongside the main deity, the temple houses various other revered deities: Lord Dakshinamoorthy, Lord Ganesh, Thiruvambadi Kannan (Lord Krishna), Nāga (Serpent deity), Shasta, and Keezhthrikkovil Subrahmanyan. (Temples of Kerala)

The temple premises also serve as a sanctuary for peacocks, the vahana (animal mount) of Lord Murugan. (Wikipedia)

8. **TEMPLE TIMINGS**

The temple is open from 4:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM daily. (Tripinic) (Timings may be extended during major festivals and curtailed during eclipses.

🪔 9. **DAILY RITUALS & POOJAS**

The temple conducts five poojas daily. The tantric (head priest) is from the Pulluvazhy family and must be present at the time of Uchapooja (noon ritual). Priests from Pulloor village are traditionally required for the poojas. (Holyprasadam)

Daily Nivedyams (Offerings) include:

Chathushataham, Panchassara Chathushataham Nivedyam, Panchamritham (Nivedyam and Abhishekam), Thrimadhura Nivedyam, Vella Nivedyam, Kadumpayasam, Palpayasam, and Unniyappam Nivedyam. (Pilgrimaide)

Abhishekam (Sacred baths) are performed with:

Milk, Oil, Panineeru (Rose water), Karimbin neeru (Sugarcane juice), Ghee, Sharkara (Jaggery), Karikku (Tender coconut water), Honey, Pushpabhishekam (Flower bath), Bhasmabhishekam (Sacred ash), and Kalabhabhishekam. (Pilgrimaide)

Thula Payasam is a special offering made at the temple. Devotees also offer a garland made of lime fruits to Lord Subrahmanya. (Sacred Yatra)

Note: Specific charges for individual poojas are best confirmed directly with the temple office at 0479-2410690, as rates are updated periodically.

🎊 10. **FESTIVALS**

The temple uniquely observes three Kodiyettu (flag-hoisting) Utsavas in a calendar year, following the Tamil calendar. **The Utsava Trayam comprises:**

- Avani Utsavam (month of Chingom) — Lord Vishnu is worshipped
- Markazhi Utsavam (month of Dhanu) — Lord Shiva is worshipped
- Chithira Utsavam (month of Medom) — Lord Subrahmanya himself is worshipped (lightuptemples)

Among these, Chithira Thiruvulsavam (the annual festival) is the most important.

Other important festivals include Thrikkarthika in Vrischikam, Prathishta Day in Idavam, Skanda Ashtami in Thulam, Navarathri in Kanni, and Thaipooyam in Makaram. (lightuptemples)

After Thiruvonam, a Vigraha Labdhi Jalolsavam is conducted in the Payippad River for three days in commemoration of the retrieval of the sacred idol. It is believed the idol was brought from Kandanalloor with an escort of snake boats. (Pilgrimaide)

🏨 11. **FACILITIES FOR DEVOTEES**

Ample parking is available for visitors. The temple provides a calm and peaceful atmosphere for worship and meditation. (Wheree)

Facilities include spiritual and religious activities, offerings to the deities, Annadhanam (free meals), temple festivals, and art performances. (Tripinic)

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The temple also houses a Koothambalam where traditional Kerala cultural performances take place.

For accommodation near the temple, Alappuzha (Alleppey) city, 14–15 km away, is the recommended base. Haripad town itself has limited hotel options.

💰 12. **DONATION INFO**

For donations, it is best to contact the temple directly:

Phone: 0479-2410690

Address: Danappady, Haripad, Alappuzha, Kerala – 690514

Bank account details for donations are not publicly listed online and should be obtained directly from the temple administration to ensure accuracy and safety.

🛕 13. **NEARBY TEMPLES**

Mannarasala Temple — A famous Nagaraja (Serpent God) temple situated near Haripad, nestled in a forest glade with over 30,000 images of snakes. It is the largest such temple in Kerala. Women seeking fertility worship here, and upon childbirth, return with thanksgiving offerings and new snake images. (Wikipedia)

Haripad is known as Kshetranagari (Town of Temples) due to the high number of temples in the area. The Subrahmanya Swami Temple and Mannarasala Temple are the most prominent among them. (Wikipedia)

Other nearby temples include Keezhthrikkovil Subramanya Temple and various local shrines within the Karthikappally taluk region.

🌊 14. **OTHER TOURIST ATTRACTIONS**

Payippad Jalolsavam — A spectacular three-day water festival conducted on the nearby Payippad Lake, featuring snake boat races and processions. It attracts visitors from across India and abroad. (Wikipedia)

Ananthapuram Palace — Located in Danappady, Haripad, this historic palace has multiple buildings spread across a vast area. (Haripad)

Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Haripad — The first Ramakrishna Ashram established in the state of Kerala, founded in 1913. (Wikipedia)

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Haripad is also celebrated as the land of Mayura Sandesham (a famous Malayalam poem), snake boats, music, dance, and drama.

🏨 15. **NEARBY BUDGET HOTELS**

Most budget accommodation options are in Alappuzha (Alleppey), about 14–15 km away.

Alappuzha is the recommended base for overnight stays, as there are no large hotels in Haripad itself. (Divinetraveller)

Some options near Haripad/Kayamkulam area include:

Glancy's Guest House — Budget option near the temple area (from approx. ₹1,500–2,000/night)

Hotel Kalai (Kayamkulam, ~11 km) — Offers 18 air-conditioned rooms with standard, executive, and suite categories, all with attached bathrooms and basic amenities. (Trip.com)

Hotel Indraprastha, Thiruvalla — About 12–14 km away, budget-friendly with free parking.

For a wider selection, Alappuzha city offers many budget guesthouses, homestays, and houseboat accommodations to suit all budgets.

📝 16. **VISITOR TIPS & DRESS CODE**

Entry is free for all, irrespective of caste, creed, or religion.

Dress code: Traditional attire is preferred. Men must remove shirts inside the sanctum; dhoti/mundu is ideal. Women should wear sarees or salwar kameez.

Remove footwear before entering the temple premises.

Maintain silence inside the temple.

Bathe and wear clean clothes before visiting.

People from across the land, irrespective of caste, creed, and religion are welcome to worship Lord Subrahmanya of Haripad. (Pilgrimaide)

Best time to visit: Early morning (4:30–8:00 AM) for a peaceful darshan. Avoid peak festival days if you prefer smaller crowds.

Best season: Throughout the year; festival seasons (Chithira Utsavam in April, Thaipooyam in January) are especially vibrant.

For the most current pooja charges, special ritual booking, and bank account details for donations, please contact the temple directly at 0479-2410690.

The Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swami Temple truly is a remarkable shrine — its age, legends, unique architecture, and the beautiful tradition of the Utsava Trayam make it one of Kerala's most spiritually significant destinations.

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Ref: AI Overview

The Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swamy Temple in Alappuzha, Kerala, is an ancient, prominent shrine dedicated to Lord Subrahmanya, known as "Dakshina Palani" (South Palani). Believed to be over 3,500 years old, it is one of Kerala's largest Subrahmanya ptemples, featuring a massive golden flagpost, four gopurams, and a traditional 5-acre temple pond.

Key Details:

- Location: Danapady Road, Haripad, Alappuzha District, Kerala 690514.
- Main Deity: Lord Subrahmanya (Velayudha Swami).
- Significance: Known for its ancient origin, consecrated by Sage Parasurama.
- Architecture: Traditional Kerala style with a prominent golden flagpost and four gopurams.
- Darshan Timings: Generally open 4:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 4:30 PM – 8:30 PM.
- Festivals: The major festival is the annual Thaipooyam festival (January-February).
- Highlights: It is one of the oldest temples in Kerala.

The temple is located along National Highway 66 between Alappuzha and Kollam.

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Ref: Wikipedia

Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple

Haripad Temple

The **Sree Subrahmanya Swamy Temple (Perumthrikkovil)**, also known as **Kerala Palani** or **Dakshina Palani** (lit. 'Southern Palani'), in Haripad, Kerala, is one of the oldest and largest temples in the region. According to belief, the temple predates the beginning of the *Kali Yuga*. This temple holds the distinction of being the largest Subrahmanya Swami Temple in Kerala, and features the longest golden flagpost, known as the *dhwajastambha* (*kodimaram* in Malayalam). The temple's main deity is believed to embody not only Subrahmanya Swamy but also Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu, making it a highly revered and powerful place of worship.

Early history

Main entrance to the temple

Legend has it that the idol of the temple was previously used by Parasurama for pooja and was later discovered in the Govindamuttom backwaters of Kandanalloor. It is said that all the landlords of Eakachakra (then Haripad) simultaneously had visions of the idol, leading them to find it in Kayamkulam Lake. The idol was brought ashore at Nelpurakadavu. To commemorate its retrieval, the Vigraha Labdhi Jalolsavam festival is conducted in the Payippad River for three days after Thiruvonam.

According to legend, the idol was temporarily placed for public viewing for half an hour under a banyan tree belonging to a Christian family, Tharakanmar. There is a small temple at that location known as "Ara Nazhika Ambalam".[1]

The temple was consecrated on the Pushya *nakshtra* (constellation) of Makara Masa, which is annually celebrated as the founding day of the temple. It is believed that Lord Vishnu appeared as a saint to consecrate the temple, which led to the name "Harigeethapuram" for the present-day Haripad.

In the Malayalam year 1096, the temple suffered a fire, but the golden flag mast and the Koothambalam were fortunately saved. During the reign of King Sree Chithira Thirunal Rama Varma, the temple was rebuilt, and the golden flag mast was reinstalled.[2][3]

Primary deity

The presiding deity of the temple is Karthikeya in his four-armed form. The idol holds the divine spear Vel in one hand and a Vajrayudha (thunderbolt) in another, with one hand bestowing blessings and the other touching its thighs. According to belief, the idol embodies the presence of Vishnu, Shiva, and Brahma. The idol stands at approximately six feet in height and in installed facing towards the east.[4][5]

Other deities

Beside the main deity, there are many other deities, which include Lord Dakshinamoorthy, Lord Ganesh, Thiruvambadi Kannan, Nāga, Shasta, and Keezhthrikkovil Subrahmanyan.

Temple description

Koothambalam in Haripad Sree Subrahmanya Swamy Temple

The temple features four *gopurams* (ornate entrance towers). A *dhwajastambha* (golden flag mast) adorns the eastern side of the temple. The sanctum sanctorum is round in shape. Additionally, the temple compound houses a Koothambalam, which is the third largest of its kind among Kerala temples. The temple premises serve as a sanctuary for peacocks, the *vahana* (animal mount) of Murugan.[6] Notably, the temple pond, known as "Perumkulam", is one of the largest temple ponds in Kerala, covering approximately five acres.

Festivals

The Sree Subrahmanya Swamy Temple has some unique features that distinguish it from other temples. One notable aspect is the observance of three *kodiyettu* (hoisting the dhvaja (flag) on the *dhwajastambha*) utsavas in a calendar year. These festivals follow the Tamil calendar. The Utsava Trayam comprises the Avani Utsavam in Chingom, Markazhi Utsavam in Dhanu, and Chithira Utsavam in Medom. Each of these festivals is dedicated to a different deity, with Lord Vishnu being worshipped in Avani, Lord Shiva in Markazhi, and Lord Subrahmanya in Chithira. Among these celebrations, the annual Chithira Thiruvulsavam festival holds particular significance.

Apart from the Utsava Trayam, the temple also observes other important festivals, such as Thrikkarthika in Vrischikam, Prathishta day in Idavam, Skanda Ashthami in Thulam, Navarathri in Kanni, and Thaipooyam in Makaram.[2][7]

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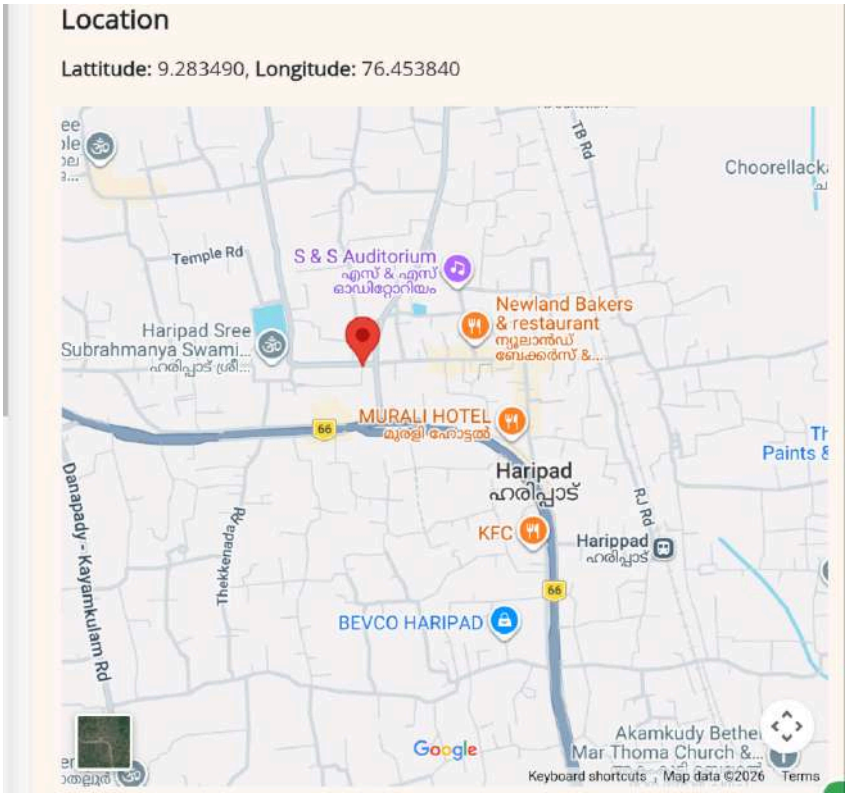
Ref: keralatourism.org



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Popularly known as South Palani or Dakshina Palani, Sree Subramanya Swami temple at Harippad in Alappuzha district is one of the oldest shrines in Kerala, believed to have been consecrated by Sage Parasurama. The presiding deity of this 3500 year-old temple is Lord Subramanya in a four-armed form with a *Vel* (a divine spear) in one hand and a *Vajrayudha* (a divine weapon) in the other. This temple has the largest *dhwajastambham* (flag mast) among Kerala temples.

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TIME	DATES	FREQUENCY	DURATION
	April/May (*Medam*)	Annual	10 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Sree Subrahmanya Swamy temple is one of the oldest temples in Haripad. This temple is dedicated to Subrahmanya Swamy, known as Dakshina Palani(Southern Palani). It is believed that the temple was established even before the advent of Kaliyuga. This holy shrine is built in the ancient Kerala style architecture. The Subrahmanya idol with four arms is the biggest of its kind designed after the sculptural pattern of the Buddhist era. As per legend the idol has been used by Parasurama for *Poojas* and was left in Kandanalloor in Govindamuttom Backwaters from which it was recovered. It is said that all the landlords of Eakachakra (the then Haripad) had vision regarding the idol in the same time which led them to find the idol in Kayamkulam lake. The idol was brought ashore at Nelpurakadavu. In commemoration of retrieval of the idol, Vigraha Labdhi Jalolsavam is conducted in Payippad river for three days, after Thiruvonam. The presiding deity of the temple is Murugan in four armed form with Vel in one hand, Vajrayudha in another hand, one hand bestowing blessing and the other toughing its thighs. The idol is about eight feet in height. The idol is believed to have presence of Vishnu, Shiva and Brahma. The idol faces East. Chithira festival is the major festivals conducted in this temple. This festival is celebrated in Subramanya Sankalppa.

RELEVANCE- (Local / National / International)	Local	NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED	Approx. 50000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS	DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*
Flag Hoisting *Annadanam* *Kavadi* Cultural Programs and folk arts Spiritual discourses Seminars Percussion Music Musical Concerts Dance *Kadhakali* *Ottanthullal* *Velakali* *Chakyarkoothu* *Sopana Sangeetham* *Arattu*	There is a flag hoisting ceremony on Vishu, marking the beginning of the festival. There is *Kavadi* performed on this day. The shrine is traditionally decorated with plantain, coconut leaves, flowers, leaves, traditional lamps and lights. There are special *poojas* and offerings during the festival period. It is a major festival of this temple. Thousands of people throng to the temple during this festival. Traditional performing arts and music and dance are staged during the period. Numerous cultural programs and temple arts are performed along with religious discourses on all days of the festival. Caparisoned elephants, *melam*, fireworks and *sheevali* are part of the festival.. On the final day *Arattu*(holy bath) takes place where the *utsava murti* of the deity is taken out of the shrine for ritual bathing. In Avani and Markazhi festival, *arattu* procession takes place in the morning, but in this festival *arattu* procession starts in the evening covering the major parts of the town and returns to the temple next day morning only. Huge gathering of crowd is their to witness the events.

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Videos

Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple (20 min):

https://youtu.be/7uTjw1KLaz4?si=2HwdrEAeK0xdg7hG

Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple…FaceBook (0.27 min):

https://www.facebook.com/share/r/18Zyfzu4hV/

Visiting Sri Haripad Temple…..vlog (4 min):

https://youtu.be/OAfFT6pqy7A?si=U1CVMaWp_NbY9yB9

Sri Subrahmanya Swamy temple and Mannarsala Nagaraja temple (4 min):

https://youtu.be/UUUdXyvYzB8?si=C02TngMFgQPHjaJp

Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple …kshetra puranam (23 min):

https://youtu.be/7vBY3WutAGI?si=xpXYFCcO9CDObZnB

Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple…pilgrimage (10 min):

https://youtu.be/sJe8OnXNggo?si=Rv5jG8ZUi6J7hyBl

Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple (5 min):

https://youtu.be/twS82jyx3To?si=n30jncPFTNzflARh

Haripad Sri Murugan Temple…history, legends, architecture etc(7 min):

https://youtu.be/bgZfQCazZX0?si=MJUFQ5CCOQ9r5V8v

Haripad Thaiyupooyyam 2025 (1 hr 6 min):

https://www.youtube.com/live/PJIZPxiBeVw?si=ITbHPI_2a5fzDcvP

Haripad Sri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple (2 min):

https://youtu.be/zW46Duacpxo?si=mbREZW1lOVDj-dlY

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Note: **At the end of this ebook, two pages are included, giving (I) Author info, and (ii) a master link and QR code to download all my Technical (viz. Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering) ebooks plus Spiritual ebooks, stored in archive.org.**

About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore,as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at Archive.org.

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
April 28, 2026

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